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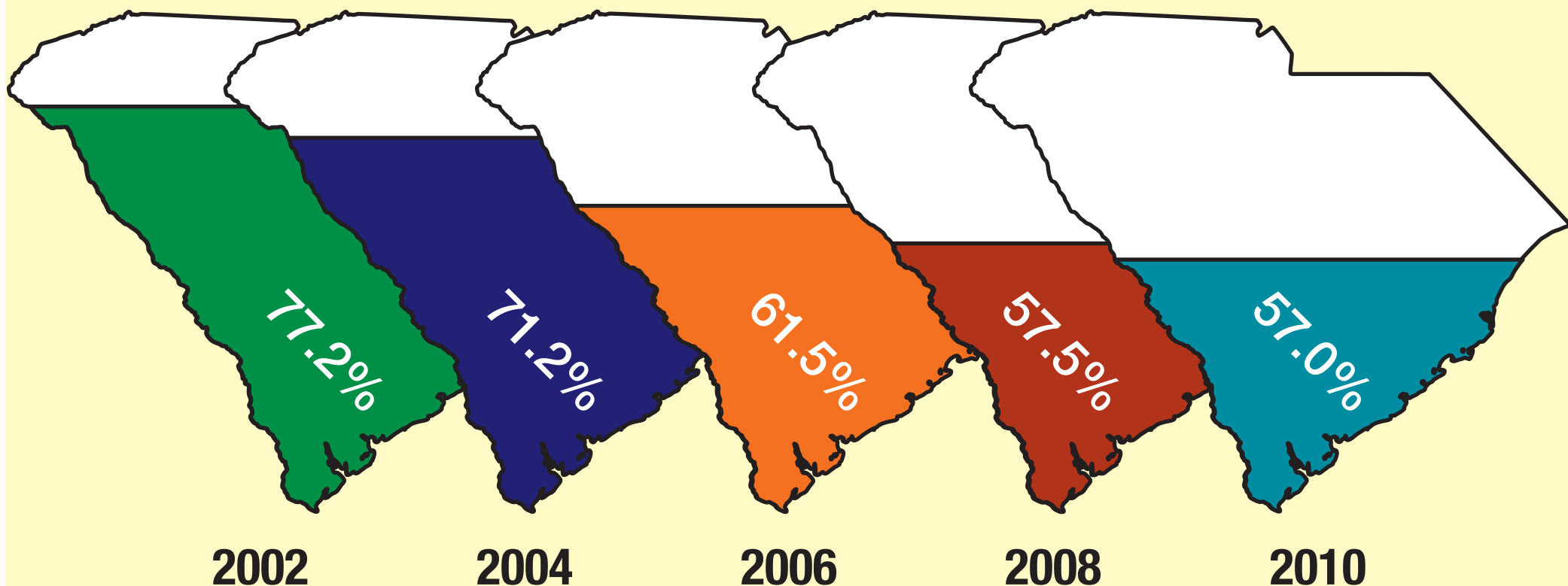
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USC's in-state freshmen percentage declines



— From ipr.sc.edu/factbook

Budget cuts, low-caliber students encourage USC to seek out-of-state talent

Ryan Quinn
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A decade ago, USC Columbia's freshman class was 78 percent in-state students.

This fall, only about 57 percent of the incoming freshman class was from South Carolina.

The decreasing majority of South Carolinians at their flagship university comes as the General Assembly is considering a cap on the number of out-of-state students that public colleges can admit. One proviso before the legislature would cap that number at 25 percent of total enrollment, said USC Provost Michael Amiridis. The argument is that the fewer in-state students a university admits, the less it is serving the citizens of South Carolina. Amiridis disagrees.

"The bottom line is that, and I don't know if people realize this, we are accepting every qualified South Carolinian," Amiridis said. "Qualified means approximately 1000 SAT and 3.0 GPA."

He said accepting more in-state students would require admitting students whose credentials don't meet that already modest requirement.

"I think it's unethical, because we are getting kids in who we think have a very high probability of not finishing," Amiridis said.

The decrease is also in tandem with state higher education budget cuts forcing USC to rely more on tuition. Out-of-state students pay \$25,362 in yearly tuition compared to in-state students' \$9,786.

"It is a way to have more funding; they are subsidizing the education of South Carolinians," Amiridis said. "At the same time, apparently, we are giving them a product they are satisfied with, otherwise they wouldn't come. So what's wrong with this?"

At the Faculty Senate meeting last month, USC President Harris Pastides said he had reminded legislators that the tuition checks out-of-state students write provide USC more funding than the state does.

But if USC's plan is to admit more out-of-state students to counteract budget cuts, that plan may backfire. South Carolina Speaker of the House Bobby Harrell said at last week's College Republicans meeting that for the first time, legislators had used the number of out-of-state students a university admits as a criterion in determining how much funding it should receive. Harrell said institutions that received more money from out-of-state students deserve less money from South Carolina taxpayers.

Several other large South Carolina public colleges have 2010 freshman class in-state student percentages similar to USC's. The College of Charleston is 66 percent in-state, Clemson is 61 percent in-state and Coastal Carolina is 47 percent in-state. What singles USC out then is not its in-state percentage but

how quickly that percentage has fallen. Clemson's freshman class in 2003 was 66 percent in-state, while Carolina was still at 75 percent.

Smaller public colleges have higher in-state percentages. One such institution is Winthrop University, where 83.1 percent of the freshman class is from South Carolina.

"We've always been dedicated to serving South Carolina students first and foremost; that's been very intentional on our part," said Rebecca Masters, assistant to the president for Public Affairs at Winthrop. "We recruit internationally, but as a public institution we realize that our first mission is to serve South Carolina."

As for the composition of future freshman classes at USC, Amiridis said the percentage of in-state students won't decline for the next four to five years.

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Patterson renovations damage South Tower

Residents report numerous issues

Laura Kubic
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The process of renovating the all-girl Patterson Hall into a suite-style dorm available to both genders is becoming much more taxing to students than initially expected.

Residents of the adjacent South Tower have issued numerous complaints to the university about their living spaces, and USC has cited the Patterson renovations as the cause in its replies.

According to USC's website, the Patterson renovations will result in the addition of important structural elements such as "seismic reinforcement, sprinklers for fire suppression and an upgrade to the fire detection systems."

Housing also hopes to upgrade the building to

Silver LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification. LEED is a program by the U.S. Green Building Council to create constructions with less of an environmental impact.

The Patterson construction is, however, having an impact on students' college environment. It has resulted in weekly complaints from South Tower occupants about the quality of water and incessant noise from construction, plaguing students' mornings and affecting their hygiene. Reports of brown, rusty and exceedingly cold water has fallen, according to some students, on deaf ears. Housing officials were unavailable for comment late Wednesday afternoon.

South Tower resident and first-year exercise science student Jinnie Lacker has experienced many of the aforementioned issues. She



Parker Jeannette / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Water damage has caused the paint on a section of the ceiling in a South Tower bathroom to start peeling.

DORM • 2

USC plans 'very modest' tuition increase this year

Provost Amiridis also says faculty hires will soon be announced

Ryan Quinn
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USC expects "a very modest increase in tuition" next semester, Provost Michael Amiridis said at Wednesday's Faculty Senate meeting.

That expectation is based on the South Carolina House's current budget proposal, which includes a 6 percent cut in the base budget of the Columbia campus. That cut, combined with cuts in the regional campuses' budgets and the evaporation of federal stimulus funds, means that USC is set to lose a total of 15 percent of its funding next year. If the budget proposal changes substantially before it passes, Amiridis said it may be "a different story."

Amiridis said he doesn't know the exact percentage for the tuition increase, but he tried to quantify by describing

Coastal Carolina's recent tuition increase of 4.4 percent as "high."

"That gives you an idea," Amiridis said.

For those who don't have calculators on hand, a 4.4 percent increase in USC's annual in-state tuition of \$9,786 would mean students would pay an additional \$430.58 toward tuition. Out-of-state students, who currently pay \$25,362 annually, would pay an extra \$1,115.93.

"I wish we could keep it zero," Amiridis said. "What concerns me right now is what I need to keep the programs running."

According to the provost, certain members of the General Assembly have put forth a variety of proposals that would limit USC's autonomy, including a proviso to force professors to teach at least nine credit hours worth of classes each semester.

"I have seen the usual dosage of eccentric proposals from

TUITION • 2

WEATHER

Thursday

65°  44°

Friday

60°  46°

MIX



INSIDE

The Mix Tape

Just in time for mid-term exams, the Mix editors go through the best late-night eateries in Columbia.

See page 7

SPORTS



Senior Night

Seniors Sam Muldrow and Johndre Jefferson prepare for USC's final home game of the season.

See page 10

ONLINE

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Polycom CEO speaks on corporation’s success

Alumnus gives lecture at School of Business

Mikelle Street
NEWS@DAILYGAMECOCK.COM

Andy Miller, Polycom CEO and 1981 graduate of the Darla Moore School of Business, spoke Wednesday in the school’s Lumpkin Auditorium.

Miller’s lecture, entitled “\$1B to \$5Billion, a Technology Company’s Venture to Leadership,” gave a quick synopsis of how he grew his telecommunications corporation into a juggernaut worth \$5 billion.

Miller, who was named as one of Computer Reseller News Magazine’s Top 100 Most Influential Executives for 2010, began his talk by giving his corporation’s background. He said Polycom has 39 percent market share and creates products and technology that 83 percent

of the Fortune 500 companies utilize.

Miller has been CEO of the debt-free company since May 2010 and in that time has already begun to make waves.

“Polycom is an industry, darling, and frankly, it wasn’t a couple of years ago,” Miller said.

After releasing six C-level executives and hiring their replacements from a pool of 117 interviews in the span of two weeks, Miller has begun to push the company into what he sees at the new frontier — cloud technologies — while still keeping a steady hold on the company’s bread and butter business.

The company has been working on teleconferencing software. Miller said that by next year almost all video conferencing will be available on tablet devices. In addition, Polycom is an innovator in the growing telepresence field.

In terms of competitors, Miller singled out Cisco, a corporation with over 13,000 employees. Miller said Polycom has less than a 10th of that. As a former employee of Cisco, Miller said he knew firsthand the benefits of Polycom and said he lists them in meetings with potential customers.

Miller also spoke to the fact that the company performs internationally. Saying 47 percent of Polycom’s business coming from outside the U.S., Miller touched on the “BRIC Plan.” The plan involves capitalizing on the fastest growing markets, which are currently Brazil, Russia, India and China.

The lecture was a part of the Wachovia, A Wells Fargo Company Speaker Series.

“I think it’s excellent that Wells Fargo gave us this opportunity. I think that it’s a resource that’s really under utilized.” said Alexis Morath, a first-year business student.

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DORM ● Continued from 1

said the water can be shut off at any given time. If students are warned of these outages, she said, the hours reported have been incorrect.

Without water, students in South Tower are unable to go to the bathroom, wash their hands, brush their teeth, shower or do laundry.

Lacker mentioned that floods are common, causing water damage to residents’ materials. She said that earlier in the semester a pipe broke, causing a rainstorm of dirty water in the lobby.

“I was given a coupon for a free soft drink in August to make up for the construction issues, but that doesn’t make me feel better seven months later in March,” Lacker said.

First-year advertising student Molly Rooney, also a South Tower resident, said she enjoys the quality of people in the dorm, as she has made most of her friends there, but the quality of the housing is becoming a nuisance.

“Some days, I’ll walk into the lobby, and there will be huge trash cans filled halfway with yellow water from a leak in the ceiling,” Rooney said. “Who wants to come home to that?”

Many students also complain about being disrupted in the early morning hours by drilling and other machines close to their windows.

“Luckily, I live on the side of the building far from the construction, but I have friends who live next to it and sleep with earplugs in,” Rooney said. “Sometimes, they say that’s not even enough.”

But a silver lining must be found in every situation. Here, among the silver crossbeams of construction and silver mold of pipe leaks, residents of South Tower must deal with the construction problems for just a few more months until the renovations are finished on July 31.

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TUITION ● Continued from 1

legislators who think they can run the university better than we,” Amiridis said.

While Amiridis described the recent higher education cut as “serious,” he said USC had prepared for it with increased tuition and a larger freshman class.

Amiridis also said that new faculty hires will be announced in the next seven to 10 days and that USC had received over 170 hiring requests from departments for the 30 positions it made available as part of its Faculty Hiring Initiative.

“We can’t stop hiring,” Amiridis said, citing a lack of senior faculty campuswide.

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Friday, March 4 @ 2 PM

Baseball vs. Clemson
Friday, March 4 @ 7 PM

Men's Tennis vs. LSU
Sunday, March 6 @ 1 PM

Baseball vs. Davidson
Wednesday, March 9 @ 7 PM

Women's Tennis vs. Auburn
Friday, March 11 @ 2 PM

Softball vs. Mississippi
Friday, March 11 @ 6 PM
Saturday, March 12 @ 2 PM
Sunday, March 13 @ 12 PM

Baseball vs. Cal State Bakersfield
Friday, March 11 @ 7 PM
Saturday, March 12 @ 4 PM
Sunday, March 13 @ 1:30 PM

Women's Tennis vs. Alabama
Sunday, March 13 @ 1 PM



PRIDE MOM ‘SPEAKS OUT LOUD’ FOR LGBT RIGHTS

Hancock part of Safe Zone lecture series

Kathryn Kranjc
KKRANJC@DAILYGAMECOCK.COM

“Pride mom” and gay rights activist Harriet Hancock shared her experiences with LGBT issues as a supportive parent as the third speaker in the Safe Zone Ally Project “Speak Out Loud” lecture series sponsored by the Student Health Services Wednesday night at Gambrell Hall. With the reassuring aura of any good-natured Southern grandmother and the feistiness of a mother grizzly, Hancock, a South Carolina native and USC alumna, shared her story of activism in the gay community in her lecture, “A Mother’s Commitment to Equality: Reflections from a Pioneer.”

Hancock’s involvement in LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender) issues began in 1980, the year her son, Greg, first came

out to her as gay. “I threw my arms around him and said, ‘Is that all? I thought you got caught smoking pot!’” Hancock said. “I knew I had to react that way because he was so scared. My biggest fear was, ‘What’s going to happen to my son?’”

A year after readily accepting her son’s identity, Hancock heard a representative of a group of parents dedicated to supporting their gay children on the radio and was inspired to start Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) in Columbia. She said she was driven by the stories she had heard from others like her son whose parents hadn’t been nearly as accepting of their children’s sexual orientation.

“Greg’s friends would [come] home to me as a surrogate mother, and it broke my heart that their own families wouldn’t accept them for who they were,” Hancock said.

Not long after PFLAG was started, Hancock



Charity Hulon / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Harriet Hancock spoke at Gambrell Hall Wednesday night as a part of Safe Zone’s “Speak Out Loud” lecture series.

became involved in the fight against the epidemic then known as Gay-Related Immune Deficiency (now known as AIDS) that was sweeping the state. In 1985 she joined the board of directors for Palmetto AIDS Life Support Services (PALSS), an organization that offers free assistance to those diagnosed with or at risk for AIDS and support for their families.

“The national epidemic was largely ignored by the (former President Ronald) Reagan administration,” said Hancock, adding that they were “some of the darkest days this country had ever experienced.”

Four years after beginning her work with PALSS, Hancock also helped organize one of the first Columbia pride marches with the South Carolina

Gay and Lesbian Pride Movement. In 1991 she and other members of the movement met with former Columbia Mayor Bob Coble to develop a comprehensive report of gay issues in South Carolina, and Coble issued a series of city ordinances preventing discrimination based on sexual orientation in employment, housing and public access areas. These ordinances made Columbia one of the first cities in the South to develop such a nondiscrimination policy.

Even after these laws were passed, Hancock went on to serve on the directive and advisory boards of South Carolina Equality, Youth Empowered Against HIV/AIDS, Outloud and the Harriet Hancock Center Foundation. Despite the defeat of the 2006 amendment to approve same-sex unions in South Carolina, she

is determined to see the day when homosexual South Carolinians will be able to legally marry. She believes parents have a great deal of power in defending their children’s rights.

“I think people were more willing to listen to us (PFLAG) parents talk about our children than they were to listen to our children talk about themselves,” Hancock said. “I can’t keep doing this for much longer, but I have a strong feeling that things will be moving much faster than we ever thought.”

First-year biology and psychology student Mason Branham, a certified Safe Zone Ally who attended the lecture, said he was reassured by Hancock’s acceptance of her son and her determination to defend gay rights.

“A lot of people say their parents don’t approve of who they

are, so it’s good to hear that there are people who really love and support us,” Branham said. “[Hancock] had no experience, but she caused a revolution, and it makes every young person ask themselves, ‘What can I do to help?’”

The next “Speak Out Loud” lecture will take place April 4 in Russell House room 315 with a panel of graduate student Allies. There are two Ally training sessions left this semester on April 13 and 15. According to Safe Zone Ally Project Coordinator Drew Newton, the program has certified approximately 150 allies this year (already 50 more trainees than last year), and he hopes more will join the program as a result of the lecture series.

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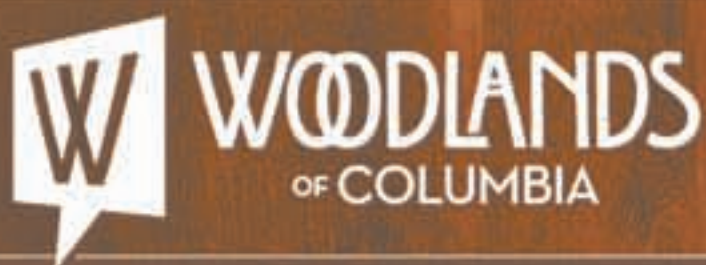
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Diverse student body benefits university

A college campus should be a place where diversity is accepted and welcome. Students at USC come from different races, cultural and religious backgrounds, states and even countries. However, members of the South Carolina legislature are trying to put a cap on the number of out-of-state students the university can admit.

This idea is absurd. While it's true that in-state enrollment has dropped 18 percent in the last decade, putting a cap on out-of-state enrollment diminishes the overall academic quality of the USC student population, and the value of our degrees. The reason that in-state enrollment is down is because students are not meeting the qualifications for acceptance, which only requires scoring at least 1000 on the SAT and earning a 3.0 GPA.

The state's qualifications for acceptance are not extremely challenging. In order to increase in-state enrollment, South Carolina needs to work on improving the education system from elementary to high school. Programs should be put in place to motivate students to achieve the acceptance requirements.

Having a large population of out-of-state students helps the university financially, too. The legislature should realize that out-of-state students bring USC more revenue than they do. This money pays for a variety of things, from professors' salaries to residence hall renovations, and directly affects the quality of life and education the school provides.

The legislature should not be able to tell USC how many out-of-state students to accept. The university should be trusted to accept the most qualified and most diverse applicants in order to provide the highest quality of education to all of its students.



I LIKE MIKE

Veterans deserve respect, assistance

Culture of ignorance, not government, to blame for disregard of former soldiers

When it comes to U.S. veterans, one statement always comes up: We should do more.

Everyone from statesmen to passers-by lays this charge at the government's feet. The American military seems somehow built into our more patriotic sides, where memories of our country's constant victories over evil regimes remain embedded in daily culture. So we salute the parades on Veterans Day and shake our heads in shame when we hear veterans' benefits might be cut in future state budgets.

How could they do this? How could the big, bad government let this happen?

To use the Bible, I think we should consider the beam in our own eyes first. I think we should ask this question instead: How did we create a culture that feels content to ignore the needs of those who defend us?

Cutting veterans' benefits is a generic example, yet it is undeniable that veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan have not all come home to pats on the back and speeches by the mayor. Employers today are less and less keen to hire veterans — despite evidence of excellent leadership or managerial skills — because they worry that former

servicemen or servicewomen will come with "emotional baggage" from their combat experiences. It seems making it to the combat zone is a success in itself.

Joint Base Lewis-McChord in Olympia, Wash., has suffered 50 soldier suicides since our two most recent wars began. Fifty suicides may be small compared to the number of men and women in uniform today, but the haunting truth of the matter is these soldiers felt so alone and unsupported in their struggles that they resorted to suicide.

Yes, the blame for this can fall to our government. Though I enjoyed President Barack Obama's last State of the Union address, he only briefly addressed the war in Afghanistan. Tribal peaces in Afghanistan are more fluid than our GPAs, and the possibility for military or civil victory recedes ever further behind the horizon. This is not the kind of official attitude or scenario that our military can support for much longer.

At day's end, we are to blame. We are employers; we are voters. We are part of a culture that does something worse than vilify veterans. We ignore them.

As history has taught us, many heroes in Vietnam were openly vilified by Americans at home, who were reeling from the peace movement. The heroes of today's wars do not even receive this notice — only silence from the media and suspicious glances from all corners. It is up to us — not just to our government — to pay attention.

Olympic logo shouldn't be controversial

Iranian leader imagines racism

The Olympics are a symbolic time when countries come together to transcend political and cultural boundaries, forget external disagreements and embrace the competitive spirit of athletics.

Apparently, Iran doesn't share this sentiment. President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad recently hurled an infuriating accusation at the



Chelsey Seidel
Third-year print journalism student

International Olympic Committee: the logo for the 2012 Olympics is racist.

The secretary general of Iran's National Olympic Committee said Iran sent a letter to International Olympic Committee President Jacques Rogge claiming the logo is offensive. After staring at the logo sideways and upside down, Ahmadinejad said he believes the block-shaped, zigzag numbers of the Olympic logo that say "2012" actually spell out the word "Zion," a biblical term widely recognized to refer to the city of Jerusalem. Iran has threatened to boycott the 2012 Olympics and has urged other Muslim states to follow suit.

The fact Ahmadinejad perceived "Zion" is out to get him in the logo speaks volumes about his competency as a leader. Boycotting the Olympics would only harm Iran's national pride by denying Iranian athletes the right to represent their country in an international tradition.

Although I am a firm believer in diplomatic propriety, someone should inform Ahmadinejad that while Iran's presence at the 2012 Olympics would be welcome, no one is going to plead with them to participate. The International Olympic Committee is standing its ground with regard to the logo claiming, "The London 2012 logo represents the figure 2012, nothing else." Iran is not exactly a strong Olympic competitor, and with Ahmadinejad's apparent hatred, the Olympic Committee should call his bluff. Iran sitting this one out is just one less controversy to worry about.

Westboro ruling required to uphold free speech

Supreme Court makes unsavory verdict to protect citizens' rights

The Supreme Court of the U.S. issued an 8-1 decision Wednesday on a case that has galvanized the public and tested our commitment to protecting freedom of speech.

The case is Snyder v. Phelps, and the decision is as unsurprising as the Westboro Baptist Church is shocking and vile.

In 2006 members of WBC picketed for 30 minutes before the funeral of Lance Cpl. Matthew Snyder, a Marine killed in the line of duty. The group contacted local police prior to the protest and abided by all laws and regulations.

Snyder's father sued in 2007 for invasion of privacy and infliction of emotional distress. Comment boards on news outlets' websites are bursting at the seams, with many outraged at the new ruling. Some say the ruling is anti-American. Other say it's a liberal decision that doesn't stand up to indecent behavior. Those

familiar with the First Amendment or media law will agree, though, the Supreme Court did the most American thing it could by protecting the rights of the protestors.

Over the last century the First Amendment has evolved a great deal, gradually narrowing one case at a time to its current form. Numerous tests have been established, ensuring consistent application of the First

Amendment to all cases brought before the Court. Protections for free speech have never been stronger, and the same can be said for the safeguards built into the Amendment to protect against its abuse. If this decision wasn't reversed, it would create a slippery slope allowing for the potential erosion of free speech.

Westboro's ideology is notorious. Its slogans disgust most Americans. Even Chief Justice John Roberts wrote in the court's majority opinion, "Westboro's funeral



Jeremy Aaron
Second-year visual communications student

IT'S YOUR RIGHT

The goal of The Daily Gamecock's Viewpoints page is to stimulate discussion in the University of South Carolina community. All published authors are expected to provide logical arguments to back their views.

The Daily Gamecock encourages readers to voice opinions and offers three methods of expression: letters to the editor, guest columns and feedback on dailygamecock.com.

Letters and guest columns should be submitted via e-mail to gamecockeditor@sc.edu. Letters must be 200 to 300 words in length and include the author's name,

year in school and area of study.

We also invite student leaders and USC faculty members to submit guest columns. Columnists should keep submissions to about 500 words in length and include the author's name and position. Guest columns are limited to three per author per semester.

The editor reserves the right to edit and condense submissions for length and clarity, or not publish at all.

All submissions become the property of The Daily Gamecock and must conform to the legal standards of USC Student Media.

CORRECTIONS

If you find an error in today's edition of The Daily Gamecock, let us know about it. E-mail gamecockopinions@sc.edu and we will print the correction in our next issue.

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As college students, we often find ourselves pulling all-nighters and staying up to the wee hours of the morning, studying and working on assignments. Although Ramen noodles or a nice box of Easy Mac can always satisfy a late-night craving, Columbia offers some solid options for a study break snack. Whether it be a delicious pita from Pita Pit, a big slice from Pop’s N.Y. Pizza or a chicken finger platter from Group Therapy, we have you covered on the late-night delivery scene. These are the five late-night delivery spots we’re obsessing about this week.

Beezer’s Gourmet Sandwich Shop

Beezer’s Gourmet Sandwich Shop, with its convenient location at 919 Sumter St., has a leg up on its late-night competition. Right down the road from the Russell House and across the street from the Horseshoe, the deli offers delicious food well within walking distance of the center of campus, all at a competitive price. Single-meat “Beezer Pleaser” subs — like the T-Bird, a classic gourmet ham and cheese sandwich — cost just \$3.99 plus tax. For just a dollar more, extra hungry college students can grab a “Double Pleasure” sub, piled high with twice as much meat. Beezer’s offers free delivery Monday through Thursday from 11 a.m. to 2:30 a.m., Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 3:30 a.m., and Sunday from 12 p.m.



Courtesy of urbanspoon.com



Sydney Patterson / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Group Therapy

Group Therapy, located at 2107 Greene St., offers a wide range of late-night dishes, serving up everything from fried mushrooms and jalapeno poppers to Tex-Mex favorites and loaded “Moose” burgers. Group Hug Nachos, stacked with chili, jalapenos and salsa, are the perfect group snack, and cost only \$7.50. The wings, available in 10 different flavors including teriyaki, spicy BBQ and zesty ranch, are served in different sized orders, up to 100 wings for \$54.75. The well-priced platters, which come with garlic bread and the option of fries, curly fries or onion rings, are mouth-watering late-night meals, catering to any craving with chicken tenders, fish and chips or popcorn shrimp. For those just looking for a sweet treat, Group Therapy hits the spot with Southern Comfort cheesecake, Palmetto peach cobbler and Grandma’s banana pudding. Group Therapy is open Tuesday and Wednesday 7 p.m. to 3 a.m., Thursday and Friday 7 p.m. to 4 a.m., and Saturday and Sunday 7 p.m. to 3 a.m.



Sydney Patterson / THE DAILY GAMECOCK



Sydney Patterson / THE DAILY GAMECOCK



Sydney Patterson / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Pop’s N.Y. Pizza

Pop’s Pizza is already one of students’ favorite late-night Five Points food stops, teasing hungry patrons with huge New York-style pizzas and other delectable Italian dishes. The basic cheese pizzas, available in colossal 22-inch pies for \$15.45, 18-inch giants for \$13.45 and individual slices for less than \$3, can be spiced up with a long list of additional toppings, including feta cheese, sausage and bacon. Gourmet pizzas, like the buffalo chicken blue cheese and barbecue chicken, add some extra flavor to the menu, as do the Italian subs, Philly cheesesteaks, calzones and wings. Pop’s Pizza has tons of dessert options, with everything from Monkey Love cheesecake topped with banana pudding and caramel sauce to fried Double Stuf Oreos — free with the delivery order of a colossal pizza with an online coupon. Pop’s N.Y. Pizza is open Monday through Wednesday 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m., Thursday through Saturday 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 a.m. and Sunday 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Pita Pit

Pita Pit, which sits right across from Andy’s Deli on Greene Street, offers an expansive menu of every pita imaginable. With many options, including the chicken Caesar pita or the chicken crave, packed with chicken breast, ham and melted cheese for just \$5.95, Pita Pit keeps things affordable for the college crowd. The gyro pita and local Greek, a Pita Pit custom creation, give Santorini’s a run for its money, and the falafel, babaganoush and feta pitas cater to those on a vegetarian diet. If pitas aren’t your favorite, the Pit has a simple menu of salads, all for under \$6, and offers every pita or salad topping imaginable. And every pita or salad can be made a combo, adding a drink and chips or a cookie, for just \$1.99. The best part — Pita Pit delivers Monday through Wednesday 11 a.m. to 3 a.m., Thursday through Saturday 11 a.m. to 4 a.m. and Sunday noon to 3 a.m.

Sammi’s Deli

Sammi’s Deli, at 2009 Greene St., offers one of the most eclectic menus of any restaurant in Columbia. With everything from gyros and Greek salads to sub sandwiches and hot wings, the choices are both numerous and impressive. Cheeseburgers and six-piece wing meals — in flavors like inferno and tropical teriyaki — are just \$3.99, giving the financially restricted college student a tasty choice for a late-night or very early morning meal. For a smaller but still filling snack, customers can choose from more than 10 different sides, including spicy buffalo chips, delicious fried mushrooms and, a Southern favorite, fried okra. The huge Sammi Special sandwich, loaded with turkey, roast beef and melted cheese topped off with real bacon bits, is also a great way to quell a late-night appetite. Sammi’s is open for delivery Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 a.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 1 a.m.

‘Hall Pass’ disappoints with ridiculous plot, characters

Farrelly brothers’ comedy devoid of laughs, lacks any semblance of entertainment value

Neal Hughes
NHUGHES@DAILYGAMECOCK.COM

“Hall Pass”
NOW IN THEATERS



Directors: Peter Farrelly, Bobby Farrelly
Starring: Owen Wilson, Jason Sudeikis, Jenna Fischer, Christina Applegate
Rating: R for crude and sexual humor, language, graphic nudity and drug use

A foolproof way to tell that a film is in the lowest tier of comedies is if, during the previews, the trailer for the latest Tyler Perry disaster (which he calls a movie) contains more laughs than the film you paid to see. The billing of the Farrelly brothers’ latest bastardization of a film, “Hall Pass,” as comedy is the worst entertainment fraud since Milli Vanilli.

One could argue these judgments are a tad extreme; however, I think they actually sell the film short. In fact, I am saddened I do not possess a versatile enough vocabulary to fully encompass the abhorrence that

gurgled deep in the pit of my stomach while Owen Wilson’s whiny and obnoxious voice grated my eardrums for two-hours.

The Farrelly brothers’ signature films rely on extreme humor (usually crude gags), and while the movies may be pretty awful at times, they aren’t usually boring. “Hall Pass,” however, manages to achieve that mediocrity while being excruciatingly hum-drum, which truly is testament to the brothers’ devolution as filmmakers.

The film centers around the concept of a week free from the duties of marriage. Granted this freedom by their wives, the main characters — two middle-aged, married men — can do literally whatever they want. The theory behind this inane concept is the age-old adage, “Absence makes the heart grow fonder.”

If the hall-pass concept seems like a disastrous relationship tool, it’s probably because it is delivered by Joy Behar, who plays Dr. Lucy, a voice of reason. Naturally, instead of just sleeping with the foxy neighbor or secretary, Rick (Owen Wilson) and Fred (Jason Sudeikis) explore their freedom through lame shenanigans.

For the first hour of “Hall Pass,” the theater was completely silent, without one giggle or chuckle. Toward the end of the film, it became obvious the Farrelly brothers took an additional 30 minutes just to add completely idiotic and ridiculous plot points, presumably because the law of averages states at least one of them has to be funny.

“Hall Pass” paints each of its characters as gender stereotypes, with the men characterized as insatiable sex fiends who only have one thing on their minds and the women as uptight and sexually averse. It is like watching



Dan Steinberg / The Associated Press

The stars of the Farrelly brothers newest film, “Hall Pass,” arrive on the red carpet for the Feb. 23 premiere.

CBS sitcoms for two hours. Stereotypical characters, however, were not the downfall of this film though.

In fact, the Achilles’ heel of “Hall Pass” was that it was completely devoid of all traces of humor.

If you are a fan of the Farrelly brothers’ 2007 work “The Heartbreak Kid,” then go see “Hall Pass.” But if you are dying to see it, just go ask your parents to detail their sex life meticulously for you. It should pretty accurately replicate the experience of sitting through “Hall Pass.”

Comments on this story?
Visit dailygamecock.com/mix

Spurned • By Jarad Greene



HOROSCOPES



ARIES People tend to avoid change and the unfamiliar. Change can be good, though — especially to day. Rearrange your space and love it.

TAURUS If you can’t get what you need close to home, look for it elsewhere. Traveling may suit your wandering spirit anyway.

GEMINI Save a little for priorities. To determine them, ask yourself, “Do I really need this?” Anything you can choose to live without is like money in the bank.

CANCER Budget what you have for what you’ll need. Your creativity and analytical nature may conflict with one another, so schedule the time and then get out the paints.

LEO Be practical. Today you make a good impression. Feed your inspiration by traveling, even if it’s just a walk around the block. This time away allows for new perspective.

VIRGO Practice delegating work. Today and tomorrow are good for travel, or for learning a new skill. Get in touch with a family member and appreciate them.

LIBRA You’re overly practical today. Balance that with a creative community project or by playing with kids. They remind you how to give and take without consequence.

SCORPIO Put all your focus and energy into a new project. Either finish it or get into the completion phase.

SAGITTARIUS A conflict can be resolved, but don’t venture far, and keep money in pockets. Use communication skills online or by phone.

CAPRICORN Strive for perfection. It may be there all along. Business interferes with pleasure. What if you could mingle both so that work and play were interchangeable?

AQUARIUS All may not go as planned. Conserve resources, even if abundant. Who knows what’s next? A mirage appears on the horizon, and something gets revealed.

PISCES You tried something, and it didn’t work. You can convince others to do it for you instead. Agree to keep expenses down for mutual benefit.

The Scene @USC

TODAY

FRANZ NICOLAY, DAVID DONDERO, NED DURRETT AND THE KINDLY GENTS
7:30 p.m., \$7
New Brookland Tavern, 122 State St.

SHANE PRUITT AND BIG DADDY LOVE
8 p.m. doors / 9 p.m. show, \$8 general / \$5 students
The House Five Points, 2020 Devine St.

TOMORROW

LOUISE WARREN W/ EMILY MCCOLLUM
6 p.m. doors / 7 p.m. show, \$6 in advance / \$8 day of show
The White Mule, 1530 Main St.

THE DIRTY LOWDOWN
7:30 p.m., \$4 over 21 / \$6 under 21
New Brookland Tavern, 122 State St.



THE MOSIER BROTHERS W/ GRANVILLE AUTOMATIC
6 p.m. doors / 8 p.m. show, \$15
The White Mule, 1530 Main St.

CALENDAR

WHAT: “The Buried Life” Ticket Sale
WHEN: 7 a.m.
WHERE: Russell House Information Desk

WHAT: Exercise Science Club Relay for Life Bracelet Sale
WHEN: 10 a.m.
WHERE: Greene Street

WHAT: HRSM Giving-Back Project
WHEN: 11 a.m.
WHERE: Greene Street

WHAT: Carolina Productions Focus Group
WHEN: 1:30 p.m.
WHERE: RH 201

WHAT: Carolina Community Coalition
WHEN: 3:30 p.m.
WHERE: RH 303

WHAT: Carolina Debate Union Weekly Debate
WHEN: 6 p.m.
WHERE: RH Senate Chambers

WHAT: Pastafarians Pasta Party
WHEN: 7 p.m.
WHERE: RH 304

WHAT: WUSC Body Meeting
WHEN: 7 p.m.
WHERE: RH 305

WHAT: News from Last Thursday Meeting
WHEN: 9 p.m.
WHERE: RH 309

PICTURE OF THE DAY



Courtney Price / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Members of USC’s student-run television station SGTV interview students about impending budget cuts in front of the Russell House on Wednesday.

Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

03/03/11

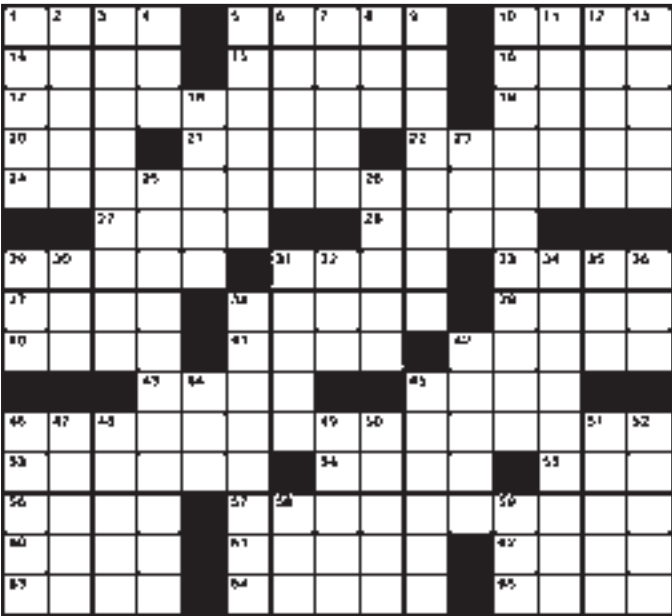
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ACROSS
1 Plain type?
5 Company whose name is quacked in ads
10 Finishing nail
14 Work
15 Sporty Mazda
16 Slick
17 Where to sleep off a bender?
19 Atl. republic since 1944
20 Aurora’s counterpart
21 Smart guy?
22 Pivoting points
24 Anxious campus society?
27 La __ Tar Pits
28 Yankee nickname
29 Worked with horses, in a way
31 2008 Libertarian presidential candidate
33 Like some rugs
37 Pool shade
38 Hair styling prodigy?
39 Off the mark
40 Abbr. followed by a year
41 Part of the dog days of Dijon
42 Fund
43 Friend of Dalí
45 Atterbury Street gallery
46 Talented jazzman?
53 Dag Hammarskjöld’s successor
54 Cramming method
55 Disturb, as the balance
56 Frost, say
57 “Airport music so early?”
60 Regarding
61 Dino’s love
62 Lhasa __
63 Headlights starrer
64 Mearth’s mother, in a ’70s-’80s sitcom
65 Flunky
DOWN
1 Pianist Hofmann
2 “I’m just __ wayfaring stranger”: song lyric
3 More than just into
4 Indirect route
5 Earhart of the air
6 Sole order
7 Door fastener
8 Scarfed up
9 Frequent



Solution 03/02/11

Martha’s Vineyard arrival
10 Is, when simplified
11 “Sleepy Hollow” actress
12 Olds that replaced the Achieva
13 Singer/songwriter born Robert Zimmerman
18 Spoke uncertainly
23 Card game with a pre-victory warning
25 Stays afloat, in a way
26 Fateful card
29 MS. enclosure
30 Operations ctrs.
31 Diner option
32 __ Dhabi
34 Incriminating record, maybe
35 Foofaraw
36 Kareem, at UCLA
38 Competitive missile hurlers
42 More than ready
44 German article
45 Big name in tea
46 Missile-shooting god



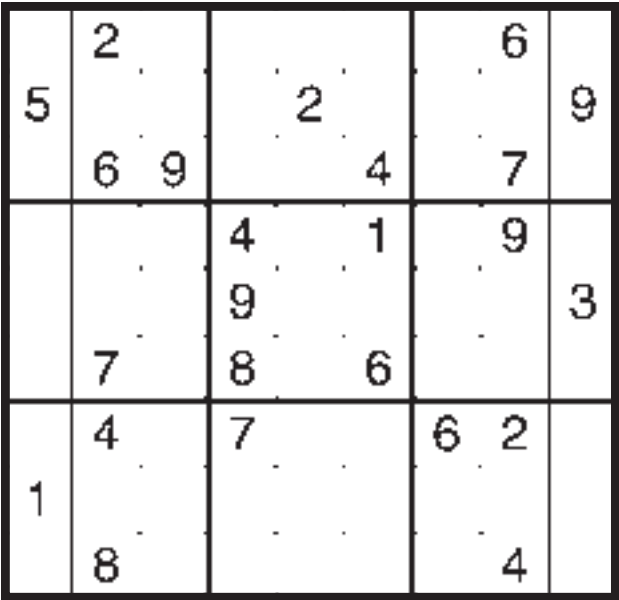
47 Make restitution
48 “Ta-da!”
49 Tاون on the Firth of Clyde
50 Emulate Scrooge
51 Playground retort
52 Watch from the trees, say
58 Feature of a two-ltr. monogram
59 “The Gold-Bug” monogram

Sudoku By The Mephram Group

03/03/11

Hey Students!

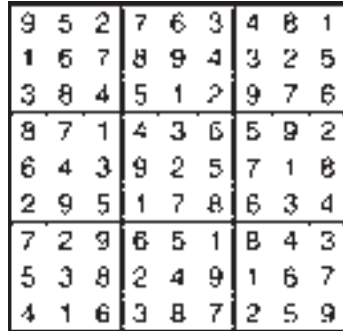
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Level 1 2 3 4

How to Play
Complete the grid so each row, column AND 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9.

Solution from 03/02/11



USC eager for Senior Night win

Jefferson, Muldrow to play final home game in Gamecock uniform

James Kratch
JKRATCH@DAILYGAMECOCK.COM

South Carolina has an extremely young team this season, but there are some veterans in the mix. Tonight marks the end of the road in front of a home crowd for two of them.

USC will face Tennessee in its final home game of the season, and barring an unlikely run to a home game in the National Invitational Tournament, it will be the final time senior forwards Sam Muldrow and Johndre Jefferson play at the Colonial Life Arena.

“I think anytime you’re headed into your last home game, obviously your focus is on your seniors,” coach Darrin Horn said. “Ultimately as a coach, that’s why you do this — because of the young people you get to work with. We’ve got two guys that have been a lot of fun to coach and have done some good things in our program.”

Muldrow is the more heralded of the two. USC’s all-time leader in shots blocked, the Florence native is the last

remaining player who came to Carolina under former coach Dave Odom. After struggling early in his career, Muldrow grew into a force in the paint for the Gamecocks, finishing his senior season averaging 11 points, seven rebounds and about three blocks a game.

“I think a lot of it’s maturity,” Horn said. “As a coach, we’d like to see even more consistency from him, but on the whole I think he has made great strides in that area, and he’s been a little better with it every year. I think a lot of that is just a natural maturation process with a player. I think some of it’s confidence as well.”

Jefferson is finishing his second year at Carolina. The Santee native transferred to USC from Northwest Florida State College last season. Jefferson appeared in every game and started four of the final five games, but his minutes have decreased substantially this year. He has appeared in 21 games, averaging 1.9 points and about 10 minutes a game.

“I think he’s had some flashes where he’s blocked some shots,” Horn said. “He’s brought us some athleticism without question and done some good things that way.”

What makes Jefferson a special player to Horn is what he symbolizes. Jefferson was the first player from the state of South Carolina Horn and his staff played for the Gamecocks during their time in Columbia.

“The one thing about Johndre that always stands out for me is that he was the first in-state kid that actually came to school here,” Horn said. “Eric [Smith] committed before he did, technically, but Johndre was the first South Carolina guy that we got on the roster. As everybody knows, that’s something that’s a focus for us and very important to us in building our program.”

Horn was coy when asked if Jefferson will receive a start tonight.

“I’d like to do that, but we just don’t hand out starting positions in our program,” Horn said. “It’s definitely a possibility.”

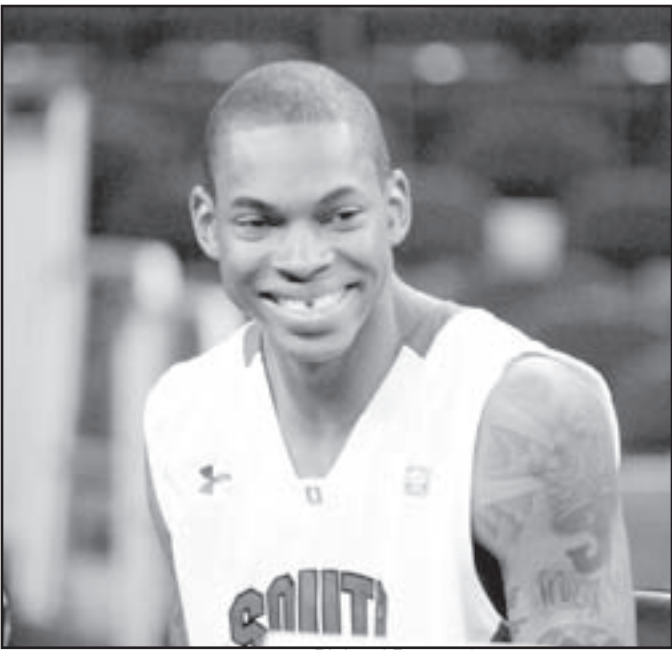
The Gamecocks (14-13, 5-9 SEC) are coming off a rough 64-48 loss at Georgia this Saturday. USC hung tough in its meeting with the Volunteers (17-12, 7-7) last month in Knoxville, losing 73-67. The game was the first in which Carolina began to heavily rely on the zone defense it has begun to run of late.

“For our first game, we did some good things,” Horn said. “We just gave up too many easy baskets when we had a



Richard Pearce / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Sam Muldrow has blossomed into the SEC’s leading shot blocker this season and USC’s all-time king in the category.



Richard Pearce / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Senior forward Johndre Jefferson was the first South Carolina recruit that coach Darrin Horn had on his roster.

SENIORS ● 11

Lady Gamecocks face must-win in SEC first round

Carolina looks to keep faint NCAA hopes alive

Ryan Velasquez
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When South Carolina hired Dawn Staley as the head women’s basketball coach, many believed a return to the NCAA Tournament was all but certain.

Three years later, that prediction may be ready to come true.

The Lady Gamecocks (16-13, 8-8 SEC) enter day one of the SEC Tournament on the cusp of their first invitation to the Big Dance since 2003. Coming off a pair of overtime losses in the final week of the regular season, however, they face a must-win situation against Ole Miss (10-18, 3-13) tonight in the opening round.

“I think we are feeling a little residual effect from losing our last two regular season games in overtime, games in which we had a lead,” Staley said. “But we’ve got to rally the troops and find a way to muster up some confidence to get the first win on Thursday.”

Staley wants her team to focus only on the Rebels, but she did acknowledge that the potential tournament bid is on her mind.

“I’m thinking about it. It’s March. Everyone should be thinking about the tournament,” Staley said. “I’m not going to put that pressure on our team, but we certainly still have life. Our body of work speaks for itself. I think we have to continue to win basketball games. This may not be a bad thing to play on the first night because we’ll get an opportunity to sweeten our resume.”

The Gamecocks will need to play well against Ole Miss, the team that knocked Carolina out of the tournament’s first round in 2010.

“We’ve just got to stay focused, listen to coach and the game plan,” sophomore guard Ieasia Walker said. “We’re really focusing on getting them back for last year, so we’ve got to play with that in the back of our minds. We owe them one.”

Continued success from Walker certainly won’t hurt Carolina’s chances of advancing. In her second year as a Gamecock, the New York native led the team with 12.4 points per game and capped off her efforts by earning Second-Team All-SEC honors.

“I was pleased about it. I really was,” Walker said. “It wasn’t a goal, but I got it,

so I’m happy with it.”

Carolina comes into the week with the No. 5 overall seed, its highest position in the SEC Tournament in the last eight years. Staley credits that to ongoing improvement but remains wary of a possible first-round letdown.

“I think we’re playing better than we played the first two years at this point,” Staley said. “I think we’re a little healthier than we’ve been in the past, physically and mentally. At this point, you’ve got to keep your guard up. We lost to Mississippi last year in the first round. Hopefully we can avenge that.”

Several Gamecocks head to Nashville fighting injuries, including senior guard

Valerie Nainima, who missed the start of the season while recovering from a torn ACL. Staley expects everyone on the team to be available to play.

“It’s late in the season, little nagging injuries here and there,” Staley said. “We’ve done that from time to time, just pulling them out if they’re feeling like they can’t go 100 percent. We’d rather they be ready to rock and roll for the games.”

Although Carolina is prepared to move on from its back-to-back overtime losses, Staley wants to use them to build motivation as the NCAA Tournament selection draws nearer.

“I’m still angry,” Staley said. “I don’t like to lose. I don’t like the feeling that you get

from losing, especially from a couple of games that I felt we had control of. We’ve got to find a way. This feeling I have is what fuels me.”

Staley doesn’t plan on discharging those emotions upon her team, though. As do-or-die time grows closer, USC’s third-year coach believes the Gamecocks will take care of that themselves.

“I think the calmer [the coaches] are, the calmer they’ll be,” Staley said. “I think they really understand what’s at stake at this point. I do think they think about the NCAA Tournament and what those two losses did to our chances. Hopefully with all of that in mind, they’ll come out fighting.”

2011 SEC Women’s Tournament Bracket



Courtesy of SECSports.com

SENIORS ● Continued from 10

breakdown in the zone.”

Besides easy baskets, UT will provide a challenge to the Gamecocks on offense. The Vols have only allowed three opponents to score 70 or more points in a game since league play began.

“I think they’re a team that’s really solid defensively in every game they’ve played,” Horn said. “They’re obviously very big and athletic. I think [they’re] the most talented team 1 to 10 in our league. When they’re getting those easy baskets, they become very good.”

Horn has already said USC will not accept a bid to the College Basketball Invitational and the CollegeInsider.com Tournament, the two third-tier

postseason tournaments. To qualify for the NCAA Tournament, USC will have to win the SEC Tournament, which starts next week in Atlanta, and clinch the league’s automatic berth. An invite to the NIT is more realistic, but also not likely. Even if the Gamecocks can finish with a winning record, it would not guarantee entrance.

Accordingly, the game with UT is less about what could be and more about what is coming to a close.

“We would all like to send both Sam and Johndre out with a win in their last game,” Horn said.


Comments on this story?
Visit dailygamecock.com/sports



Wade Payne / The Associated Press

Scotty Hopson dunks during Tennessee’s win over USC last month in Knoxville.

Spring Football Schedule




Courtesy of Richard Pearce

Tuesday, March 15, 4 p.m.
Thursday, March 17, 4 p.m.
Friday, March 18, 4 p.m.
Saturday, March 19, 10 a.m. (scrimmage at Williams-Brice Stadium)
Tuesday, March 22, 4 p.m.
Thursday, March 24, 4 p.m.
Friday, March 25, 4 p.m.
Saturday, March 26, 10 a.m.
Tuesday, March 29, 4 p.m.
Thursday, March 31, 4 p.m.
Friday, April 1, 4 p.m.
Saturday, April 2, 10 a.m. (scrimmage at Williams-Brice Stadium)
Tuesday, April 5, 4 p.m.
Friday, April 8, 4 p.m.
Garnet & Black Spring Game: Saturday, April 9, 1 p.m.

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February’s Fraternity & Sorority OF THE MONTH

The Greek Community congratulates the following groups as Sorority and Fraternity of the Month

A B Γ Δ Ε Ζ Η Θ Ι Κ Λ Μ Ν Ξ Ο Π Ρ Σ Τ Υ Φ Χ Ψ Ω

Sorority of the Month: Alpha Delta Pi

- Hosted Parent’s Weekend January 28th – 30th that included a Lowcountry Boil, parents breakfast and cocktail events , and Parent’s Club programming. In addition to presentations and awards ceremonies, the event raised \$1200 for the Ronald McDonald House Charities.
- Won 13 out of 14 Excellence Awards at Alpha Delta Pi’s District Leadership Conference in Macon, GA.
- Won Dance Marathon’s Highest Participation Award this past weekend.

Fall 2010 Chapter Facts

| | |
|------------------|---------------------------------|
| Members: 274 | Service Hours: 5,689 |
| Charity: \$3,162 | 100% of members involved at USC |

Fraternity of the Month: Chi Psi

- After Spring Recruitment, USC’s Chi Psi chapter is now the largest Chi Psi chapter nationally.
- Donated to Dance Marathon and had a member on Dance Marathon’s Leadership Board
- Attended Chi Psi’s regional convention in Wake Forrest.

Spring 2011 Chapter Facts

| |
|-----------------------------|
| Members: 128 active, 28 new |
| Service Hours: 100 |

A B Γ Δ Ε Ζ Η Θ Ι Κ Λ Μ Ν Ξ Ο Π Ρ Σ Τ Υ Φ Χ Ψ Ω

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